

TJIC DIALOGUE

A publication of the Thomas Jefferson Information Center (TJIC), Public Affairs Section, United States Embassy Manila

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October, 2003

The Public Affairs Section of the United States Embassy enthusiastically supported Sangandaan 2003, a cultural commemoration of a century of Philippine-American relations. Organized by the Cultural Center of the Philippines, the University of the Philippines and the Filipino-American National Historical Society, the festival featured exhibits, theater productions, films, dance, concerts, literary events, a conference and a symposium during the month of July. PAS loaned its exhibit on the American educators, the Thomasites, to the Cultural Center of the Philippines for a one-month showing in their third floor gallery; it assisted in bringing an off-Broadway troop to perform their newest play at the CCP Tanghalang Huseng Batute; it provided funding to the Metropolitan Museum to mount a major exhibition on the work of architect and city planner Daniel Burnham; and it provided speakers for a symposium on Philippine-American relations.

Sangandaan 2003 Highlights America's Cultural Relationship with Philippines



Curtain call: Cast members of the Ma-Yi Theater Company in the CCP Studio Theater.

“The Romance of Magno Rubio” Plays at the CCP

The Public Affairs Office sponsored the Philippine premiere of “The Romance of Magno Rubio,” a play based on a short story by Filipino expatriate writer Carlos Bulosan. Presented by the Ma-Yi Theater Company of New York in conjunction with

the Cultural Center of the Philippines, the production opened on July 16, 2003, in the Tanghalang Huseng Batute (Studio Theater) of the Cultural Center of the Philippines. The play was one of the most popular entries of Sangandaan 2003.

“The Romance of Magno Rubio” was written by Lonnie Carter with Tagalog text by Ralph B. Peña and directed by Loy Arcenas. Set in California during the Great Depression, the play focused on Filipino immigrant Magno Rubio, who toiled alongside his fellow farm workers while dreaming of a woman he knew only through letters. The cast included Art Acuña, Ramon De Ocampo, Ron Domingo, Jojo Gonzalez and Orlando Pabotoy.

A post-performance reception was held at the CCP's Silangan Hall, during which the guests met the cast and other members of the Obie (Off-Broadway) award-winning Ma-Yi Theater Company. Ambassador Francis J. Ricciardone was guest of honor.

Participation of the Ma-Yi Theater Company was made possible in part through support from the Fund for U.S. Artists at International Festivals and Exhibitions, a public/private partnership of the U.S. Department of State, the National



Ambassador Francis J. Ricciardone (right) with playwright Lonnie Carter.

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Ambassador Francis J. Ricciardone views a model of the Burnham Plan for Manila. From left to right: Exhibit curator Paulo Alcararen, Architect Felino Palafox, the Ambassador, and the Honorable Joselito Atienza, Mayor of Manila.

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Endowment for the Arts, the Rockefeller Foundation and the Pew Charitable Trusts; additional support provided by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, and administered by Arts International.

"City Beautiful?: The Burnham Plan for Manila's Urban Development" Exhibit Launched at the Met

Opening the Sangandaan 2003 festival was the July 2 launch of the Metropolitan Museum of Manila's exhibit "City Beautiful?: The Burnham Plan for Manila's Urban Development." Funded by the Public Affairs Section Manila, the exhibit highlighted the legacy of the American era in the Philippines through a display of maps, plans, pictures, artifacts and models of Architect Daniel H. Burnham's plan for Manila and Baguio. Nearly 200 guests attended the opening ceremony, which featured remarks by Ambassador Francis J. Ricciardone, Mayor Lito Atienza of Manila, and the Chairman of the Metro Manila Development Authority, Secretary Bayani Fernando. The exhibit, which ran until September 26, 2003, stressed the importance of urban planning and the positive influence of American architects on cities and buildings in the Philippines.

On September 19, the Museum sponsored a lecture-forum titled "Metro Manila: City Livable?" attended by architecture faculty and students from the University of the Philippines in Diliman, the University of Santo Tomas, and other institutions. Cultural Affairs Officer Thomas

J. Kral delivered the opening message. Other speakers included Mayor Maria Lourdes Fernando of Marikina City, exhibit curator Architect Paulo Alcazaren, city planners Councilor Kim Atienza of Manila and Ms. Alicia Padua and Ms. Cherry Tena of Quezon City, Mayor Eva Marie S. Medina of Vigan, Macao Cultural Institute officer Ms. Carla Figueiredo and Met Museum director Victorino M. Manalo.

International Visitors Alumni Association Sponsors Forum on Philippine-American Relations at Sangandaan 2003

As part of Sangandaan 2003, the International Visitor Program-Philippines Alumni Foundation (IVP-Phils) and the U.S.

Embassy sponsored a symposium on socio-cultural issues relating to the future of Philippine-American relations. The event was held in the CCP Multi-purpose Hall on July 24. Over 50 long-time American residents of the Philippines, former IVs, university students, and embassy officials listened to Dr. Frank Jenista, acting Information Officer and professor at Cedarville University in Ohio, and Reverend Judith Bunyi, President of Harris Memorial College in Antipolo, as they shared their views on "how to become a multi-cultural person." Reverend Bunyi shared tips on overcoming culture shock and stressed the importance of getting to know oneself before getting to know persons of another culture. Dr. Jenista drew upon his childhood experiences in the Philippines, and commended the organizers for the dialogue, arguing that too much of the discourse on U.S.-Republic of the Philippines relations focuses on political, military or economic issues. He encouraged the audience to serve as "cultural interpreters" or even "cultural medics" to explain differences between cultures.

During the open forum, the use of English and the threat of globalization were debated. Reverend Bunyi stated that her speaking English was "not a measurement" of her patriotism. She also commented that "the Filipino cultural identity will die only if we let it."

Dr. Jenista highlighted the fact that millions of American and Filipinos have familial or professional ties to each other, *Continued on page 3*



Dr. Jose Abueva removes his "Americana" before the start of the program. Seated next to him are Dr. Frank Jenista in a Filipino barong and Reverend Judith Bunyi.

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and that these personal bridges encourage them to be more informed about each other.

The program was moderated by former University of the Philippines President and former IV Dr. Jose Abueva, who himself has two children of U.S. citizenship and two children of Filipino citizenship.

The thought-provoking presentations fostered understanding of the cultural differences between the Philippines and the United States. The program encouraged greater appreciation for the qualities of each culture and challenged the participants to analyze the deep socio-cultural ties shared by the Philippines and the United States.



Silliman University President Dr. Augustin Pulido during the launch of "After September 11: Images from Ground Zero" photo exhibit at Silliman University.

Program News

U.S. Speaker Discusses U.S. Foreign Policy

Mr. Ralph Cossa, Director of the Pacific Forum in Honolulu, Hawaii, led a highly successful lecture series on regional security issues in Manila from August 25-30, 2003. He noted that the events of September 11 and the Iraq crisis encouraged the establishment of new alliances which undermine the relevance of Cold War multilateral institutions. He stressed that the threat of terrorism gave countries the "political cover" to collaborate. While the media debates unilateralism versus multilateralism, Mr. Cossa argued that the debate should actually focus on the future of ad hoc multilateralism versus institutionalized multilateralism. He used Kosovo and the Solomon Islands as examples of ad hoc multilateralism.

Biotech Expert Dispels Myths About Agricultural Biotechnology Products

Director of the University of California's Systemwide Biotechnology Program, Dr. Martina Newell-McGloughlin, conducted a lecture series on the merits of agricultural biotechnology in Manila, Cagayan de Oro, and Iligan from June 26-July 2, 2003. Citing numerous studies by the world's leading scientists (including specialists from the Vatican and the European Union) which note that biotech crops are substantially equivalent in composition, digestibility, and feeding value to their conventional equivalents, Dr. Newell-McGloughlin

undermined claims that biotech food products are unsafe and are degrading the environment. Using different illustrations, she noted that biotechnology protects plants from pest and fungal infestations, reduces dependency on chemicals, improves yield, and diminishes soil erosion.

The program's participants included farm leaders, local government officials, university professors, scientists, church leaders, anti-biotech advocates, consumer groups and journalists in Metro Manila and Mindanao. Dr. Newell-McGloughlin's visit coincided with the commercialization of Bt corn, the first biotech crop introduced in the Philippines.

American-Muslim Scholars Stress Compatibility Between Islam and Democracy in Lecture Series

With financial support from the U.S. Embassy, the Asia Foundation, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, the Ramos Peace and Development Foundation and other local sponsors, the newly formed Philippine Council for Islam and Democracy hosted Dr. Radwan Masmoudi and Dr. Louay Safi for a lecture series in Manila, Marawi City, Cotabato City, and Zamboanga City September 9-17, 2003. Leaders of the Washington, DC-based Center for the Study of Islam and Democracy, Dr. Masmoudi and Dr. Safi interacted with local government officials, ulama, students, professors, NGO leaders and journalists. Quoting Koranic verse in fluent Arabic, they stressed that

governance should center on "consultations," not authoritarian rule.

The team also promoted issues of gender equality, respect for minority rights, and the importance of instilling democratic values in society, especially among the youth. During a forum on the second anniversary of the September 11 attacks, they condemned terrorist attacks in the name of Islam, a religion of peace.

"Images From Ground Zero" Photo Exhibit Launched in Dumaguete

On September 8, Public Affairs Officer Ronald J. Post joined Silliman University President Dr. Augustin Pulido to launch the Visayan tour of Joel Meyerowitz's photo exhibit "After September 11: Images from Ground Zero" in Dumaguete. On display in the historic American-period Silliman Hall, the exhibit also featured photos taken one year later at the World Trade Center site by former Fulbright Scholar, Assistant Professor Jonah Lim of Silliman University. The PAO marked the second anniversary of the September 11 attacks, stating that "the chilling photos serve as a remembrance and a reminder — a remembrance of those who perished and a reminder that terrorism must be defeated."

Thousands of Silliman University students and Dumaguete-area residents viewed the photographs during the three-week exhibition.

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ACAO Molly Stephenson leads a discussion with New Era University students.

Program News

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Public Affairs Officers Brief University Students on the Work of U.S. Embassy

On September 10, Assistant Cultural Affairs Officer Molly Stephenson and Assistant Information Officer Bettina Malone hosted 25 students and professors from New Era University, Quezon City at the U.S. Embassy for a discussion and tour of the historic grounds. Describing the breadth of the Embassy's work and their specific professional portfolios within the Public Affairs Section, the officers helped the international affairs students better understand the work of U.S. diplomats. Their visit was the first in a series of meetings with various embassies.

On September 12, ACAO Stephenson joined with Political Officer Steve Ruken to meet with 25 international affairs students from the University of Asia and the Pacific (UAP). The students raised questions about RP-U.S. relations, the upcoming visit of President Bush to the Philippines, and the challenges of working as a diplomat.

PAS Participates in UNESCO Youth Conference

In celebration of International Youth Day on August 12, the United Nations Association of the Philippines in cooperation with the UNESCO Associated Schools Project and the Philippine Normal University opened a three-day conference on the theme "Youth Empowerment for

Natural and Cultural Heritage Preservation." A featured presentation of the conference was a panel discussion on educational exchange conducted by the U.S. Embassy's Cultural Affairs Officer Dr. Thomas Kral and the cultural attachés from the French and Japanese embassies. More than 100 youth leaders participated in the event.

PAO Leads Discussion on Intercultural Communications

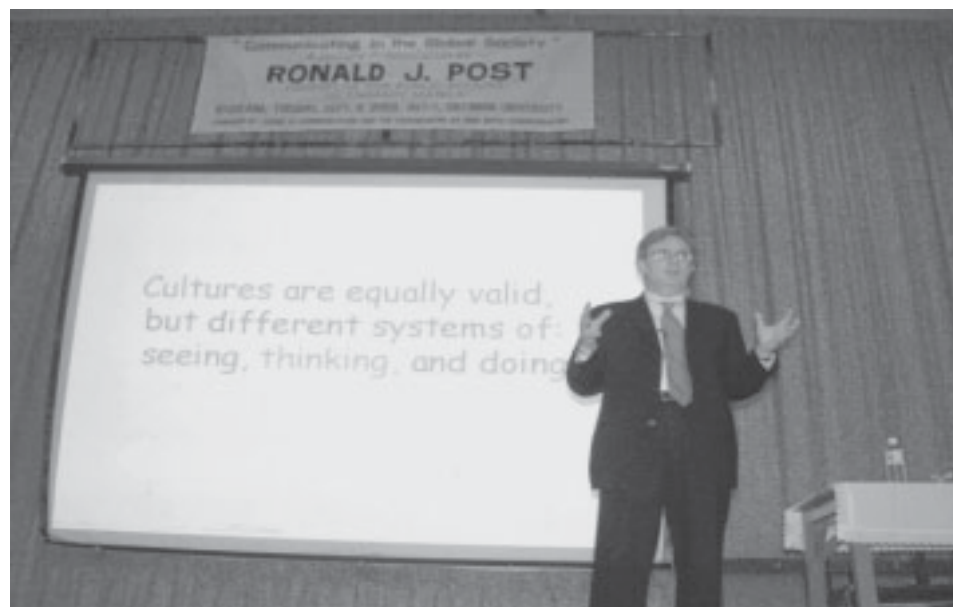
On September 9, Public Affairs Officer Ronald J. Post shared his insights on communicating in a global society with 120 students and faculty from Silliman University, St. Paul College, Central

Western Visayas University and local media practitioners. Using illustrations from his Foreign Service career, PAO Post described how culture provides a "frame of reference for how we see, think, and act." He argued that, because of globalization, intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding are needed more than ever. The program provided an opportunity for the participants to raise questions on diverse topics such as America's image in the world, Philippine media, globalization, and post-war Iraq.

Ambassador Ricciardone Awards Democracy Grants to Eight NGOs

On July 29, Ambassador Francis J. Ricciardone spoke at an award ceremony for recipients of the U.S. Embassy's Small Grants Program. He congratulated the representatives of eight NGOs which were selected among 32 applicants. He expressed confidence that these small contributions would help them expand their important work. The grants will support the following activities: a series of roundtable discussions on Islamic culture in the Philippines; the training of advocates to protect the rights of indigenous peoples; gender and cultural sensitivity training for Muslim women; publication of a series of articles giving expression to the voices of moderate Islam in Southeast Asia; the education of overseas Filipino workers about their rights under the new absentee-voting law; a symposium on peace and development for Mindanao youth; the training of paralegal volunteers to help the

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PAO Ronald J. Post addresses Dumaguete university students, professors and journalists.



Ambassador Francis Ricciardone poses with the recipients of the U.S. Embassy's Small Grants Program at the grant signing ceremony. From left: Molly Stephenson, Assistant Cultural Affairs Officer; Emmanuel Josue, Executive Director of KAIBIGAN; Father Jose Magadia, Executive Director of Ateneo Center for Social Policy and Public Affairs; Carlos Medina, Executive Director of the Ateneo Human Rights Center; Ambassador Ricciardone; Father Ben Beltran, Executive Director of Smokey Mountain Recovery Systems; Aniceto Sobrepeña, Chairman of the International Visitor Program-Philippines Alumni Foundation; Sophia Dimalog, Chairperson of Bangsa Bai Livelihood Movement; Rafael Lopa, President of Foundation for Communication Initiatives; and Ricardo Sunga, Officer-in-Charge of the University of the Philippines-Institute of Human Rights.

Program News

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urban poor; and the production of an informational video on waste segregation and recycling for Manila area school children.

ASAP Launches "Back to the Future"

The American Studies Association of the Philippines (ASAP), in cooperation with the Public Affairs Office and the Philippine-American Educational Foundation (PAEF), launched *Back to the Future: Perspectives on the Thomasite Legacy to Philippine Education* at the Executive Lounge of the Ayala Life-FGU Center on August 12, 2003. The approximately 100 guests included the authors and editors of the 450-page compilation of academic papers that were presented during the international conference commemorating the centennial of the arrival of the Thomasites.

The book brings a valuable piece of scholarship into the hands of the academic community and the general public — both in the Philippines and in the United States. The book speaks directly to today's policy makers as they wrestle with the problems of improving Philippine education.

Book Launch at Holy Angel University

The Juan D. Nepomuceno Center for Kapampangan Studies at Holy Angel University and the Center for Tarlaqueño Studies of Tarlac State University launched the monograph *Mr. White: A 'Thomasite' History of Tarlac Province, 1901-1913* by

Professor Lino L. Dizon on September 4. The event also featured a press conference with Public Affairs Officer Mr. Ronald J. Post, the opening of an exhibit titled "Escuelang Laun: The Thomasites and Early Public Education in the Kapampangan Region 1901-1931," and the opening of a PAS paper show on volunteerism.

Dr. Bernadette M. Nepomuceno, president of Holy Angel University, Congressman Jesli A. Lapus of the Third District of Tarlac, and PAO Ronald J. Post participated in the launch.

ASAP Sponsors Lecture Symposia

The American Studies Association of the Philippines (ASAP) sponsored a lecture symposium on "World Environment Day: An Interdisciplinary Perspective" June 30 at the University of the East (UE). Among the speakers were Dr. Wilhelmina Orozco of St. Scholastica's College "Spirituality and the Environment," Dr. Alexander Flor, Vice-Chancellor for Research and Development of the UP Open University "Environment and Communication," Director Evelyn Miclat of the Planning and Environmental Sciences for Social Change "Environment and Social Change in the Philippines," and Dr. Guillermo Pesigan "Ecocriticism: Nature and Environment in Literature." Cultural Affairs Officer Dr. Thomas J. Kral delivered the closing remarks.

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Corazon D. Villareal, Editor of Back to the Future: Perspectives on the Thomasite Legacy to Philippine Education signs a copy of the book for Joselito Aseniero.

Program News

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On July 18, ASAP sponsored a lecture symposium in recognition of World Population Day at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines. The speakers were Ms. Reynalda L. Perez, project management specialist of the USAID Office for Population, Health and Nutrition ("USAID-Supported Population and Health Programs in the Philippines"), Ms. Rosalinda D. Marcelino, regional director for the National Capital Region, Population Commission ("Population Demographics"), and Dr. Custodia A. Sanchez, PUP professor ("Human Sexuality and Reproduction and the Difference between Love and Sex"). The program featured a dramatic reading of Amador T. Dagui's "Wedding Dance" by ASAP Vice-President PUP professor Norma D. Martinez, ASAP Vice-President, and PUP Drama and Dance Office chief Professor Dodie C. Dizon. CAO Dr. Thomas J. Kral delivered the response to the speakers' topics.

Thomasite Legacy IV Award Given to 2002 Metrobank Teacher of the Year

On July 11, Ambassador Ricciardone presented the U.S. Embassy's Thomasite Legacy International Visitor Award to Jesusa Despojo in Dumaguete City. The award commemorates the contributions made by the Thomasites to Philippine education. A science teacher at Dumaguete City High School, Ms. Despojo will travel on a specially designed International Visitor Program. Upon her return, she will conduct workshops for her Filipino colleagues in high schools around the country. The Metrobank Foundation will sponsor her Philippine tour.

Surigao State College Hosts American Studies Conference

Surigao State College of Technology, in cooperation with the Office of the Mayor of the city of Surigao, hosted a day-long conference on Philippine-American Relations on July 25. Principal speakers included Cultural Affairs Officer Thomas J. Kral, Philippine-American Educational Foundation (PAEF) Executive Director Alexander A. Calata, local historians and academics. Among the attendees were nearly 100 teachers, coming from colleges and high schools in Surigao City and its nearby islands.

The one-day conference was the culmination of efforts by Surigao State

College of Technology President Teresita Tumapon to form a local American Studies Association to address topics relevant to U.S.-Philippine relations. A swearing-in ceremony of the new officers of the Surigao American Studies Association took place at the end of the conference. The Association plans to sponsor conferences, publish peer-reviewed journals, and support curriculum development efforts to sustain the local scholarly community and broaden the perspective of the local people.

Executive Secretary Romulo Swears in Officers of IVP-Phils

Executive Secretary Alberto G. Romulo, himself a former IV, inducted the officers of the International Visitor Program-Philippines Alumni Foundation (IVP-Phils) on July 24, 2003, at Malacañang. During the program, Public Affairs Officer Ronald J. Post shared words of encouragement noting that IVP-Phils serves as a model to IV programs around the world. Mr. Aniceto Sobrepeña, IVP-Phils Chairman, informed Executive Secretary Romulo of IVP-Phils' recent accomplishments. The Executive Secretary commended the group for its work in engendering positive change in the Philippines.

Radio Veritas featured three former IVs in its early morning program: Angie Cunanan, Director of the Small Grants Programme of the United Nations Development Programme; Mario Garcia, Vice-President of Radio Veritas; and Persida Acosta, Chief Public Attorney at the Public Attorney's Office. Ms. Cunanan and

Ms. Acosta are members of the IVP-Phils board. They spoke about the IV Program, the nomination process, and their experiences while on the program in the U.S.

ASRC Activities

ASRCs Celebrate U.S. Independence Day

During the month of July, ASRCs at De La Salle University, Ateneo de Davao University, the University of St. La Salle, Ateneo de Zamboanga University and the Cebu American Resource Foundation, Inc. organized photo exhibits commemorating U.S. Independence Day. De La Salle and Ateneo de Zamboanga universities exhibited books and monographs on the American Constitution and new titles in their American Studies collections

Xavier University organized a symposium on "Philippine-American Relations: A Second Look" and film shows about Fil-American relations. These activities were planned and prepared by Atty. Neil Pacamalan, Chair of the American Studies Program Committee, in cooperation with the American Studies Association, Cagayan de Oro Chapter through its president, Ms. Joy Enriquez.

Resource speakers were Cultural Affairs Officer Dr. Thomas J. Kral, who
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Leaders of the International Visitor Program-Philippines Alumni Foundation pose with Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo (center).



Chargé d' Affaires Joseph Mussomeli (center), CAO Dr. Thomas Kral (third from right, standing), and the IRC staff join the participants of the ASRC/AC training workshop.

ASRC Activities

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presented the American perspective, and Atty. Constantino Jaraula, Congressman of Cagayan de Oro City, who gave the Filipino side. The symposium was well attended not only by the Xavier University community but also by students and faculty of other schools in Cagayan de Oro.

PAS Holds ASRC/AC Training Workshop in Manila, September 15-19

PAS sponsored a training workshop for 27 directors and reference librarians of 12 ASRCs, including two new centers in Cotabato City and Dumaguete City and "satellite" centers in Jolo, Sulu and Bongao, Tawi-Tawi. The program took place from September 15 to 19, 2003.

The workshop introduced participants to the core concepts of American Corners. It provided guidance as to how new programs can be designed for broader, younger audiences and how closer relations can be established with local media. Participants were introduced to useful web sites and the EBSCOHost Masterfile periodicals online database. They received hands-on computer training on how to access sites and databases; and they learned techniques to manage the web and create and disseminate electronic products.

The speakers included the CAO, cultural program specialists, information resource center (TJIC) staff, information office staff, the librarian of the American Historical Collection, the Library of Congress representative, the director of the Educational Advising Center of the Philippine American Educational Foundation (PAEF), and representatives from the U.S. Agency for International

Development (USAID), Peace Corps, and the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). Chargé d' Affaires Joseph Mussomeli joined the participants at the closing ceremony and presented the Certificates of Achievement.

ASRCs Form a New NGO

The directors of the various ASRCs formally organized the Philippine Association of American Studies Resource Centers during the recent ASRC/American Corners Training Workshop. The new officers are: Jocelyn Ladlad (De La Salle University) – President; Annabelle Acedera (Xavier University) – Vice President for Mindanao; Hinie Gonzales (University of Saint La Salle) – Vice-President for the Visayas; Lucena R. Felipe (Mariano Marcos State University) – Secretary; Divina Tenorio (Cebu American Resource Foundation) – Assistant Secretary; Josephine Fernandez (Central Philippine University) – Treasurer; Virgilio Reoma (Saint Louis University) – Public Relations Officer; Lorna Yso (Silliman University) – Auditor. Chargé d' Affaires Joseph Mussomeli inducted the new officers at the closing ceremonies of the American Studies/AC Training Workshop.

ASRCs Host Program Series

Ms. Annabelle Acedera, ASRC Director at Xavier University (XU), Cagayan de Oro City, conducted a series of lectures on ASRC resources and services at Mindanao Polytechnic State College on June 27 and XU high school department on July 28.

The XU ASRC outreach service to other libraries was extended to the Sacred Heart School in Western Mindanao. XU ASRC lends out a number of books, as well as back issues of periodicals, to

interested libraries in the city and elsewhere in Region X.

The ASRC's collection can now be accessed and requested online through the XU library's online catalog on its web site. The library has also provided the ASRC with its own web page where information about its services and new acquisitions can be accessed. The URL is: <http://library.xu.edu.ph/index.htm>.

Ateneo de Zamboanga ASRC scheduled Atty. Manuelito R. Luna, 2001 IV grantee, for a program on "The U.S. Judicial System and DNA Evidence" on July 19, 2003. Nearly 100 participants were present including teachers and students from Ateneo de Zamboanga and neighboring universities, lawyers, doctors, and policemen headed by the Chief of Police of Zamboanga City.

On August 19, 2003, Mr. Hezekiah Concepcion, Chair of the Social Science Department, Ateneo de Zamboanga, spoke to an audience of 64 participants on "Historical Concept of Constitutional Government: Civilian Supremacy over the Military."

Cultural Affairs Officer Dr. Thomas J. Kral and Ms. Eva B. Brillo, director of the Thomas Jefferson Information Center, Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy visited Ateneo de Zamboanga University on July 15, 2003 to discuss proposed plans for the ASRC to broaden its role in the Sulu archipelago.

During the months of August and September, Educational Advising Centers at the ASRCs in Bacolod, Iloilo, Baguio and Batac were engaged in special outreach activities organized by PAEF's Educational Advising Center director, Dr. E.C. Cunanan. Professor Marie Therese V. Jochico, volunteer Educational Adviser at the University of St. La Salle traveled to Iloilo to speak on "Study Opportunities in the U.S." to nearly 500 students from Central Philippine University's English and Science departments and the College of Commerce. She repeated this program for 70 students and faculty from the College of Education and Department of Criminology of the University of Iloilo.

Central Philippine University ASRC Director and Educational Adviser, Josephine Fernandez crossed the straits from Iloilo to Bacolod to give lectures on

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ASRC Activities

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"Study USA" to high schools students at St. La Salle and St. John's Institute.

Mariano Marcos State University Educational Advisor Lucena Felipe and St. Louis University Educational Advisor Virgilio Reoma participated in advising sessions taking place in Makati at the PAEF headquarters.

Silliman U to Host ASRC

On September 8, Silliman University President Dr. Augustin Pulido signed the Memorandum of Agreement to host an American Studies Resource Center (ASRC). The ASRC will be housed on the ground floor of the university's main library and will provide texts, periodicals, and internet access to information about the United States and its policies as well as serve as a program venue for speakers.

The Silliman University ASRC is the eleventh ASRC in the Philippines. It will complement the newly opened American

Education Advising Office supported by the Philippine American Education Foundation.

IRC News

IRC Director Speaks at Philippine Book Fair

Information Resource Center Director Eva Brillo was resource person during the annual Philippine Book Fair held at the Megatrade Hall of the SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City, August 30-September 7, 2003. On September 3 she spoke on "Emerging Paradigm: A Vision of Reference Service in a Complex Information Environment" at a forum sponsored by the Philippine Association of Academic and Research Libraries (PAARL). On September 5 she spoke on "Online Reference Freebies" sponsored by the University of the Philippines Library Science Alumni Association (UPLSAA). During both lectures, she introduced the renovated TJIC

web site and highlighted the links to free information sources on the web site.

What's New on the TJIC Web Site

The TJIC staff has renovated its web site to provide links to sites with free information sources in selected subject areas. Among these are: RP-US Relations, Free Reference Web Sites, Study in the U.S., English Language Teaching, American Studies, Islamic Life in America. Links to other subject areas are under construction. The web site continues to provide access to TJIC's Current Awareness Service through the "What's New" section. The TJIC web site can be directly accessed at its new URL: <http://manila.usembassy.gov/wwwh2002.html>.

New Bibliographies:

1. Campaign Finance (07/2003)
2. Regional Security (09/2003)
3. Narcopolitics (09/2003)

These bibliographies can be downloaded from the TJIC web site.



Embassy of the United States of America

Public Affairs Section

1201 Roxas Boulevard
Manila, 1000 Philippines

Thomas Jefferson Information Center
Tel: (63)(2) 526-8295
Fax: (63)(2) 525-0432
Email: tjic@pd.state.gov

TJIC Web Site:
<http://usembassy.state.gov/posts/rp1/wwwh2002.html>

Public Affairs Office
Tel: (63)(2) 523-1326

Cultural Affairs Office
Tel: (63)(2) 525-0427

Press Office
Tel: (62)(3) 526-0357

Embassy Web Site:
<http://usembassy.state.gov/manila/>